

May 2, 2001

Dr. Jeffrey P. Koenings
Director
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
P.O. Box 43135
Olympia, WA 98504-3135

Dear Jeff:

We are writing to thank you for your prompt attention to and resolution of the issues associated with the Hydraulic Permit Approval (HPA) for the new Tacoma Narrows Bridge. There were certainly a healthy number of issues at the outset of our discussions, but we were able to work through them successfully. We would like to comment in particular the work of Mr. Greg Hueckel, Assistant Director. As your team leader in these discussions, he guided the Department's participation with a fair, steady and responsive hand and a solid professional manner.

We notice that fish issues tend to generate a fair amount of heat and light these days. The Department was nevertheless able to turn its prompt attention to the HPA for the Tacoma Narrows Bridge Project. We are pleased that we were able to resolve the issues expeditiously. Please extend our appreciation to all of those who participated on behalf of the Department and to Kathryn McLeod of the Attorney General's Office.

Sincerely,

PRESTON GATES & ELLIS LLP

By:

William W. Stelle, Jr.
Cynthia A. Kennedy

WWS:lm

cc: C. Gregoire
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